



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/686,951	10/15/2003	Peijun Jiang	2003B043/2	8802

23455      7590      03/23/2006  
EXXONMOBIL CHEMICAL COMPANY  
5200 BAYWAY DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 2149  
BAYTOWN, TX 77522-2149

EXAMINER

CAIN, EDWARD J

ART UNIT      PAPER NUMBER

1714

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Art Unit: 1714

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-71, 109-116, 171-184 and 360-375, drawn to adhesive, classified in class 523, subclass 176.
- II. Claims 72-80 drawn to package, classified in class 206, subclass 216.
- III. Claims 81-102, drawn to disposable article, classified in class 442, subclass 59.
- IV. Claims 103-108 and 117-136, 310-347, 376-391, drawn to laminates, classified in class 428, subclass 500.
- V. Claims 137-170, drawn to fiber, classified in class 428, subclass 359.
- VI. Claims 185-205, 220-235 and 426, drawn to tape and labels, classified in class 428, subclass 343.
- VII. Claims 206-219, drawn to plywood, classified in class 428, subclass 106.
- VIII. Claims 236-261, bookbinding, classified in class 428, subclass 192.
- IX. Claims 262-309 and 411-424, drawn to roadmarking, classified in class 523, subclass 172.
- X. Claims 348-359, drawn to paving, classified in class 524, subclass 59.
- XI. Claims 392-395, window glaze, classified in class 52, subclass 204.5.
- XII. Claims 396-410, drawn to shingle, classified in class 52, subclass 518.
- XIII. Claim 425, drawn to carpet, classified in class 428, subclass 96.

Inventions Group I and Groups II-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product,

Art Unit: 1714

and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as adhesives for other than the articles of Groups II-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group II and III-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as packaging for other than the articles of Groups III-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group III and Groups IV-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as a disposable article not requiring the article limitations of Groups IV-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group IV and Groups V-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the

Art Unit: 1714

intermediate product is deemed to be useful as laminate not requiring the article limitations of Groups V-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group V and Groups VI-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as fiber not requiring the article limitations of Groups VI-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group VI and Groups VII-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as tapes and labels not requiring the article limitations of Groups VII-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group VII and Groups VIII-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as a structural laminate not requiring

Art Unit: 1714

the limitations of Groups VIII-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group VIII and Groups IX-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as bookbindings not requiring the limitations of Groups IX-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group IX and Groups X-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as roadmarking compositions not requiring the limitations of Groups X-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group X and Groups XI-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as paving compositions not requiring the

Art Unit: 1714

limitations of Groups XI-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group XI and Groups XII-XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as window glazing not requiring the limitations of Groups XII-XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Inventions Group XII and XIII are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product, and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP § 806.05(j)). In the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful as shingles not requiring the limitations of Group XIII and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct because there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one

or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward J. Cain whose telephone number is (571) 272-1118. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (571) 272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edward J. Cain  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1714

